

[20th October 1927]

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I make a submission ? If the Commissioner of the Corporation is an officer of the Government whose conduct has to be enquired into . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" His conduct ought to have been brought to the notice of the Minister for Local Self-Government and not the Minister for Public Health."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" In answer to clause (c) they say the Government do not propose to take notice of the conduct of Mr. Nayudu. Is it, in the opinion of the Government that it is a trivial matter to insult the President, the honorary President of a big City like the Corporation of Madras ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" For the simple reason that they are not aware of any such insult."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYA :—" With regard to officers above a certain status, is it not a fact that the complaints should be followed by a resolution of the local bodies concerned ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I submit, Sir, that this is a question which does not arise and it is also a hypothetical question."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—" Now that the Government are aware of the insult offered to the President of the Corporation, will they now at least take the trouble to enquire into the matter ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The answer is that the Government are not aware."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasaya :—" After the interpellations and discussions, at least now will the Government take the necessary action ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I maintain that even now Government are not aware of any such insult."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" None so blind as those who will not see."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" There are certain details . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is making a speech."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to make an enquiry and tell us what the incidents are ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" No, Sir."

Local Boards

Nomination of Christians to represent the Hindu depressed classes in local boards and municipalities.

* 736 Q.—Mr. S. VENKAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no representation of the Adi-Andhras in the Gudivada Union Board, Kistna district ;

(b) if the Government are aware that there is no such representation, what steps have they taken to remedy the defect ;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the nomination of Christians to represent the Hindu depressed classes in local boards and municipalities ;

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(d) whether the Government have ever approved or condemned the system of nominating persons of a faith different from the faith of those whom they represent;

(e) whether the Government have considered whether any amendment to clause 5 of section 9 of the Local Boards Act is needed to prevent such wrong nominations being made; and

(f) if such an amendment is necessary, when they will make it?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information. Under clause (c) of sub-section (4) of section 9 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, members of union boards are appointed by presidents of taluk boards.

(c) Yes

(d) They have not disapproved. Depressed classes representatives are appointed to represent depressed classes and not the members of any particular religion.

(e) & (f) The Government do not consider that any such amendment is required.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I know with reference to the answers to (a) and (b) whether they have attempted to get any information ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ May I take it that the information has not yet reached ? ”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ We have not yet got the information.”

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—“ With reference to clause (d) may I know if they have approved of the nominations made on the lines suggested in the question ? They say they have not disapproved.”

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Government have neither approved nor disapproved.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ The time allotted for the questions and answers now being over, the House will now proceed to the next order of the day.”

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the member.]

III

AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(1)

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to present to the House the report of the Select Committee on the amendments of certain Standing Orders which I proposed some months ago. I shall take it for granted that the report is read by the House. After listening to the conclusions to which the Select Committee has arrived, I think with the permission of the House, it is necessary for me to reiterate my proposals for amending some of the Standing Orders. The first amendment relates to Standing Order No. 19. I propose to add a new clause or Order No. 19-A to this effect : ‘ 19-A. Every question admitted shall be given an answer with the information sought, unless the answer be against public interests.’ Sir, this proposal of mine arises out of my points raised in the debates of the Council so early as

12 noon.